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side of sympathy" While in a biography the "side of sympathy" should not be lost sight of, yet in the discussion of issues the historian should not allow "fancy to intrude upon sober fact and figure." However, with the exception of a few examples of possibly a too "amorous" vein such as: "when in October Kit Carson . . . returned to home" (p. 338), and "narrates of his death" (p. 629), the style is well suited to a work of this kind.

A few minor mistakes occur which will readily be corrected in a revision, such as: "the American ships flew the recall" for blew the recall (p. 226), and "Exec. Doc. 37, 3d Sess. 41st. Cong. 1871" which should read "Senate Exec. Doc. 37, 3d Sess. etc." (p. 631, n. 56).

The book contains numerous half tones "mostly from old and rare sources" which are very valuable. There are also ample notes and references to sources and an appendix of contemporary material.

W. C. MURPHY

Frémont and '49. The Story of a Remarkable Career and its Relation to the Exploration and Development of our Western Territory, Especially of California. By Frederick S. Dellenbaugh. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1914. 547 p. \$4.50)

The author of this volume is known to students of western history for his *Breaking of the Wilderness* and *The Romance of the Colorado River*. In this latest addition to his description of the land west of the Mississippi River he has told the story of the Fremont expeditions in the form of a biography of the leader. Mr. Dellenbaugh found justification in the fact "that no consecutive and complete account of the entire career of this extraordinary person with his five exciting Western explorations and his war experiences has ever before been published."

We have then a mixture of biographical narrative and enlarged record of exploration. While the author traces Fremont from his birth in Savannah, Georgia, to his death in New York city seventy-seven years later, and follows throughout the form of biography, yet nearly four-fifths of the space is given over to the five exploring expeditions, approximately half of this to the second. One chapter serves to bring Fremont to the beginning of his first expedition. The closing chapter covers thirty-six years, including his candidacy for the presidency in 1856, his military service in the Union army and the culmination of his land disputes in California. Aside from the record of successive expeditions the only subject treated at length is the American occupation of California which fills two chapters. This may help explain the form of the title of the volume, although the author apparently conceived of all other Fremont expeditions as a preparation.

The author prepares the reader for the events of the first expedition by a graphic description of the region west of the Missouri. A summary account is given of earlier explorations and of the occupancy of the region by white men: Spanish, English and American. The purpose of this background and the nature of the author's conception of his task can be best given by quotation: "The expeditions were, evidently, a part of a great game — the game of California. The question was, Who wins California?" Mr. Dellenbaugh has accepted Fremont's later explanations of the purpose of his work. To quote: "The object, as set forth in the orders, however, was simply to explore the country between the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains, 'but its real purpose' and objects were known only to the 'circle of its friends,' indicating that Benton, Linn, Fremont, and the others of the select circle in their consultations on the subject of territorial acquisition in the Far West, which included California, had worked out a more or less definite plan, later carried out as occasion permitted." Upon this basis Mr. Dellenbaugh treats Fremont as the important instrument in the acquisition of California, not only in the publicity he gave to the "Far West" by his reports but also by his conduct in California in 1846.

The method followed by the author in arriving at this conclusion requires some examination. Apparently he is aware of the recent elimination of the long-used British designs but he writes of this phase: "While it may be true that the British government had no direct designs there were many indirect interests at work to obtain a footing. Had this been secured before Fremont began his definite operations, they never could have been dislodged without war. California would have been a Canada on the Pacific. But after Fremont played his hand no foreign nation could have slipped in without direct antagonism to the United States, and he planned the affair so adroitly that in case it became necessary or advisable to repudiate what he had done the path was clear." Throughout the discussion of Fremont's operations in California the author interprets orders and letters with the assumption that they did not convey the real purpose. Fremont was the representative of the "select circle" rather than of the American government. This distinction is the basis of the author's praise of Fremont and of his action.

Yet Mr. Dellenbaugh's defense of Fremont is labored. In an apparent effort to continue his hold and that of his reader upon the strong figure that the record of exploration has revealed, he loses perspective when his hero becomes involved in the tortuous course that he followed in California. There is an effort to overwhelm the critics of Fremont by repeated assertion and a questioning of motive. All the subsequent ac-

count of Fremont is colored by this method of defense and renders the account of the St. Louis difficulty and of his later course in the army less convincing than it might otherwise be. In fairness it must be said that as a biography this book is not convincing.

But it is already obvious that this book should be judged from another standpoint. We suspect that the author was drawn to the subject of this biography by the study of the successive explorations. He knows the ground thoroughly, and has woven into his account of Fremont's journeys much personal experience as to locality and custom. For his intensely interesting account of these explorations we should be very grateful.

The book is profusely illustrated. The photographs are excellent and the drawings by the author in good taste. There are eight maps; the one showing the routes of the five expeditions, opposite page 68, may be particularly noticed. The index is ample and the bibliography lengthy.

EDGAR E. ROBINSON.

The Spanish Archives of New Mexico. Compiled and Chronologically Arranged with Historical, Genealogical, Geographical, and Other Annotations, by Authority of the State of Mexico. By Ralph Emerson Twitchell, of the New Mexico Bar. In two volumes. (Cedar Rapids: The Torch Press, 1914. 525; 683 p. \$12.00)

The prefatory note to these volumes contains a brief sketch of the history of the archives of New Mexico in which the author follows and, in some particulars, supplements the account of these archives by Professor Vaughan in a report of the American Historical Association. Mr. Twitchell takes exception to the manner in which the archives of the territory of New Mexico were transferred from Santa Fé to the manuscripts division of the Library of Congress: "Legally, the government had the right to assert its ownership and control over these documents, but morally, it was an act which is justified only by the very excellent work which has been accomplished by the Librarian of Congress since they have been in his custody. . . New Mexicans can congratulate themselves that the records of the court of private land claims were permitted to remain in the custody of the surveyor-general." The author informs the reader that his calendar of the legal documents in the care of the surveyor-general of New Mexico "with some changes and other modifications" was taken from a "list" which had been prepared by A. F. Bandelier. In compiling his second volume concerning the historical archives of New Mexico, Mr. Twitchell "employed" the excellent calendar which was being prepared by the Library of Congress.

The first volume of this compilation deals with the papers concerning